

Crossroads



Cover story: Wildlife sanctuary at Penns Creek ■ Corning's Rockwell Museum ■ The Wyalusing *Rocket-Courier* ■ A special residence in Mansfield ■ Microbreweries in Williamsport & Corning ■ Wellsboro's new cafe ■ People stories: Mansfield's John Novak ■ ABC-TV's Sam Donaldson ■ Elmira's Hal Roach, producer ■ Troy student Greg Congdon ■ Morris native Dorothea Bohnert

Crossroads

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To our readers,

Welcome to the seventh edition of *Crossroads* magazine, created under the journalism program at Mansfield University.

In this edition, we bring you regional accounts of people, places, and events in the northcentral Pennsylvania region and nearby New York communities.

Stories this year include: profiles of Elmira-native and movie director Hal Roach and ABC news anchor Sam Donaldson; visits to the Rockwell Museum in Corning and the Lewisburg area's T&D Cats of the World, an animal sanctuary; and a retrospective of the *Rocket Times* newspaper in Wyalusing, operated by the Keeler family for four generations.

We'll also take you to some area establishments brewing coffee, ale and friendly atmospheres: a cyber cafe in Wellsboro, a microbrewery/pub in Williamsport, and a microbrewery/restaurant in Corning. Finally, you'll read interesting stories about people in the region, including former elementary school Principal John Novak, Wellsboro's Dorothea Bohnert, Troy's Greg Congdon and residents and their caretakers in a group home located in Mansfield.

We would like to thank our readers, Madelyn Williams, the Mansfield University administration, our advertisers, and our story sources. Without you, we would not be able to sustain this magazine year after year.

The 1999 Crossroads Staff

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Profile: John Novak

Making A Difference

by Kimberly Sapone

When he goes to the grocery store, most people smile at him, wave, or give him a warm hello. One employee in particular stops his work and goes to say hello to the man that made such a difference in his life not so long ago. He is a celebrity of sorts in the small community of Mansfield. His name is John Novak, and his celebrity status comes from years of service and dedication to the children and the borough of Mansfield. He championed for children with special needs before anyone realized how important a feat it was.

"Most would know me as a person who cared for special needs kids and who fought for them," Novak says of his status.

In the beginning he simply wanted to teach. While he attended high school in Attica, NY, he looked up to his math teacher and a coach who also worked at the high school, and he wanted to be like them. He saw the way they dealt with their students - their complete dedication and care for not only the children as individuals, but also for their education. He knew then that he wanted to teach. He wanted to make the kind of difference in a child's life the way they had made a difference in his.

Novak graduated in 1958 from the State University of New York at Brockport, with his bachelors

degree in elementary education. That same year he wed the love of his life, Jane. His first job was in his hometown at the Attica Central School in Attica, NY, teaching grades seven through nine. While he worked there, he also was working toward his masters degree in elementary administration and supervision, which he received in 1964 from the State University of New York at Buffalo. Novak was then working at the Alexander Central School in Alexander, NY, teaching fifth grade.

John and Jane Novak decided to start a family of their own, and soon after, Jane gave birth to three daughters, Jill, Jody, and Jenny. Novak then got news that would change his life. He and his family would be moving to Mansfield, PA, where Novak would be taking over as principal of Miller Elementary School. This would be the first chance he had to live up to his own expectations of what a principal should be. His first goal was to outreach.

"I wanted the community involved in the education of the kids," Novak says.

In order to do this, he held parent teacher meetings and he sincerely listened to the parents concerns and wishes for their children's education. Being a parent himself, Novak knew that the parents had

real concerns, and he therefore took all of the things that they said into consideration when making any sort of decision that had to do with the school or the children.

Novak soon realized that a terrible injustice was being done to children not only in Miller Elementary School, but also in other surrounding towns and cities. Worse yet, it seemed that no one noticed that the injustice was happening unless it directly affected them.

Children with physical and mental handicaps had to travel at least an hour in any direction to attend a special school so that they could get their education. Novak began to question why this was so, and he decided to do something about it.

He knew that letting the special needs children into the classrooms would present some problems, like new teaching needs. He made sure that teachers were taught sign language so that the deaf students and students with speech impediments could be taught with the "normal" kids. He also got the school district to hire aides. These aides would stay with the challenged students throughout their elementary and high school careers to provide some consistency in the student's lives. By doing all these things, John Novak made Miller Elementary School an institution that

other school districts could look up to.

All the while he was doing this important job, Novak also became active in community service. He was always helping out and doing whatever he could to better the community. He worked with the Girl Scouts, served on numerous principal associations, as well as serving on several boards.

In 1993, Novak retired from his position as principal of Miller Elementary School. Why retire at such a young age?

"I thought in my own mind that it was time to do it," Novak says.

Novak is still active in his community, serving on numerous boards, such as Guthrie Healthcare

System, and The Green Home. He was honored with the Outstanding Citizen Award in 1995 given a banquet and a plaque by the community.

"He knew all the kids by name," says Reverend Deborah Casey, who is a pastor for Campus Ministry on the Mansfield University campus, as well as a pastor who fills in at the First Presbyterian Church, where Novak is a member. "He's just a really wonderful man."

Novak's humility in talking about everything he has accomplished is astounding.

"If I didn't have a lot to do, it would be like life is over for me," Novak says.

John Novak also says that he always needs to be doing something.

If he stops doing one thing, he will surely pick up something else.

Novak currently is working at Elmira College as the supervisor for student teachers, as well as co-directing the camp for gifted and talented children at Mansfield University. He and Jane own a cottage in the Finger Lakes, where they plan to begin spending about six to seven months of the year enjoying retirement. Novak helps people to create portfolios and resumes to compete in the job market. He is also what he calls a "common sense counselor," giving advice to people that he knows who are having problems adjusting or who just want to talk. Looking at all of his accomplishments, there could be no one better to give life advice than John Novak.

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The Twin Tiers is not an area usually known for its famous filmmakers. However, producer/director Hal E. Roach is one Hollywood legend whose roots were back East. And the city of Elmira is proud to claim Roach as a native son.

Harold Eugene Roach frequently returned to Elmira after he left in 1908. In a 1988 visit to speak at Elmira College, he received an honorary arts doctoral degree.

"'Elmira's a lot smaller than it used to be,'" he told the young but receptive crowd. Roach was noticing that it was a short drive from his boyhood home to Eldridge Park.

The grown-up Roach still found time to return to his hometown up until his death on November 2, 1992. On January 12 of that year, two days before his 100th birthday, Roach came back for one of his last visits to his upstate New York childhood community. He was greeted with admiration and film festivals held in his honor.

Any Hal Roach film festival would not be complete without *Laurel and Hardy* and *Our Gang* films, two important movie institutions which he was responsible for creating. These comedy shorts are regularly the subject of classic film festivals and are still shown on television today. The characters of *Our Gang* were spotlighted in the 1994 comedy film *The Little Rascals*.

Roach remembers Elmira

Roach's fondness for his roots often showed up in his films. As an exhibit in the Chemung County Historical Museum in Elmira reveals, real-life incidents of his youth were the basis for some *Our Gang* films. His refusal to snitch on his friend later inspired "Reading and Riting". His days spent playing in the Second Street Cemetery turned into "Spook Spoofing". "First Round-up" reflected his experiences camping at Seely Creek.

Profile: Hal Roach

Elmira's Hollywood Legend

by Ross Raniere

Even local theatrical productions, such as operas shown at the Wilbur Opera Company in Elmira, became sources for Roach's film productions.

He also added personal touches in many films that evoked memories of his stomping ground. Products were shown on film that were made in Elmira. A telegram might feature Elmira as its return address.

As a boy, Roach held several odd jobs in Elmira. He worked at his grandfather's jewelry store, was a paperboy for the *Gazette*, and delivered ice. He did not graduate high school, opting instead to attend the school of life.

Initially, Roach's family background seemed an unlikely environment to springboard into a film career. His mother, Mabel, ran a boarding house and his father, Charles, worked at an insurance firm. However, while living in Elmira, Roach developed a love for the theater. He

got a job as the usher and ticket taker in the local vaudeville house, Family Theater, located in the Realty Building. His diligence earned him passes to the nearby Lyceum Theater, where he later claimed to have seen every show.

At age 16, Roach left Elmira in hopes of striking it rich in the gold fields of Alaska. After gravitating to California, he ended up making five dollars a day as a movie extra. Not quite the riches he expected, but this serendipitous twist of fate would eventually pay off.

Moves to California

After becoming more visible behind-the-scenes as a producer and businessman, Roach used a \$3,000 inheritance to start his own film company in Culver City, CA. The Hal Roach Studio, later dubbed "The Lot of Fun" and the "laugh factory," produced numerous short films, many featuring *Laurel and Hardy* or the little rascals of *Our Gang*.

During World War II, the studio was taken over by the war department and was temporarily known as "Fort Roach." "Colonel" Roach produced propaganda and training films for the Army and Air Force. One of the films' stars, Ronald Reagan, in a 1988 *Variety* article later as President, deemed Roach "a real American hero and a legend of film and television."

Roach sometimes ventured into television and also produced several feature films, including 1937's *Topper*. He directed and produced *One Million B.C.* in 1939 with his son, Hal Roach, Jr. Roach, Jr, who passed away in 1972, also produced television, including the programs "Amos n' Andy" and "Life of Riley." Roach's 1939 *Of Mice & Men* picked up an Academy Award nomination for Best Picture.

However, Roach always had an affinity for his short films, most of which were 30 minute two-reelers.

" 'You can't make people laugh for more than a half an hour and be consistent,' " he told the New York Times in 1992. His principle in making films was " 'once they laugh, don't let them stop.' " When asked by *USAir* magazine if his comedies were hard to write, Roach replied, " 'Fifty percent of what was written wouldn't play as it was written.' " The magic happened when he yelled, "Action!"

Others in the industry have championed Roach as a pioneer of modern humor. In a 1992 Daily News piece, comedian Jay Leno observed that Roach's movies laid the foundation of what is considered comedy today. " 'The presentation may be different, but it's still the same,' " he noted.

While assembling a 1994 television special on Roach's films, Hollywood's King of Laughter, producer Jeffery Weinstock summed up the longevity of Roach's comedies, specifically *Laurel and Hardy*. He said, " 'something that is done well is timeless.' "

Even at 100, Roach revealed to *USAir* that his mind was still brewing with ideas. His disgust with current trends in comedy fueled the passion for filmmaking continued to inspire him. " 'Producers don't know how to be funny without laugh tracks,' " Roach observed. He had planned to venture back into both television and movies. Although Roach definitely lived a full life, he could have continued for another 100 years on his enthusiasm alone.

At Roach's funeral, which was covered by the same *Gazette* which he once delivered, Elmira mayor James E. Hare said a few words about Roach's effect on his city.

" 'I came to appreciate Hal because of his special caring for his community,' " he said.

Roach's life was longer than several of his family members. He outlived two wives, Margaret and



SKETCH BY: HOLLY BLYLER

Lucille, son Hal, Jr, and two daughters, Margaret and Elizabeth. He has three surviving daughters, Jeanne Roach, Bridget Anderson, and Maria Watkins.

His daughters flew out from California to attend the funeral in Elmira. Maria remembered that her father " 'had fabulous stories about this place.' "

The *Star-Gazette* reported that at the funeral, Richard Baum recalled his friend Hal once said he wanted to be buried in the same town that he was born in.

" 'I'll get more attention in Elmira,' " Roach told him.

Over the years, Roach also shared with Baum his aspirations of continuing his career beyond his already indelible credits. Baum remembered that Roach was " 'always talking about tomorrow. He was interested in making something tomorrow that was better than anything ever made.' "

The attention Roach received is

reflected in a simple trip to downtown Elmira. The Steele Memorial Library features Roach memorabilia. The Chemung County Historical Society contains information on Roach and the surrounding areas. In the same building lies the Chemung County Historical Museum, where a showcase of Roach's career is on display. He is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery. There is even a Hal Roach Society, dedicated to maintaining the memory of his life.

On the afternoon of his 100th birthday, Roach was honored at a ceremony held in Los Angeles. Many reporters came from around the world to join those honoring him and his legacy, which included writers for the *LA Times*. Taking in the scene, and realizing that his century of life was truly fulfilling, he wryly remarked, " 'I'm only an extra here.' " Little did he know he would leave an indelible stamp on the film industry and his hometown of Elmira.



David Keeler, owner and publisher of the Wyalusing Rocket-Courier.

PHOTO BY: LISA ROBINSON

The biggest little newspaper in the country

by Lisa Robinson

"Hey, take a look at this," the man laughs and passes the folded newspaper across his co-workers desk.

The woman across the desk looks at the front page of the paper and laughs at the photo of a man sitting on a stuffed cow, the cow in return sitting on a motorcycle, and the headline which reads: "New Police Officer Hired to Patrol Wyalusing." Under the headline the story is tongue in cheek: *Borough Officials are withholding official comment on a report that a veteran police officer from a nearby community has been named to serve as Wyalusing's Chief of Police. The Rocket-Courier, however, has learned that Rural Peace Officer Danny Sanders of Jester Hill has been named to fill a vacancy in the Wyalusing Police Department and started patrolling the borough earlier this week.*

Sanders said he was interviewed for the job by a team of six expensive lawyers hired by the borough.

"I can't say much other than that," Sanders said, "because I understand Wyalusing officials are real touchy when it comes to police talking to the press."

His duties in Wyalusing will include Officer Sanders being issued a loaded pistol for the first time in nearly 30 years.

"Okay, we might as well get this out in the open right now," Sanders explained. "I was at this Jester Hill Township Supervisor's meeting back in the late 1960's, things were really boring and my gun went off. A couple of supervisors made a really big deal out of this, even though the bullet went harmlessly through the men's room wall. Anyway, ever since then they've made me carry a gun with rubber bullets, and

I've never forgiven them for it. Hey, what's the big deal? Guns go off, you know."

The story relayed in the April Fools Day edition of this small town newspaper, called the *Wyalusing Rocket-Courier*, isn't necessarily a typical story but it does help define a hometown theme one might find in the papers' pages. The fictitious town, Jester Hill, is something only residents of Wyalusing, PA, and frequent readers of the *Rocket-Courier* would know about. The jab at the Wyalusing officials is a 'inside joke', alluding to a situation with the dwindling police department within the borough, a subject the paper has recently been focusing on.

Jester Hill is only one example of the many features the paper offers, besides the hard core news, which is usually displayed on the front page of the paper every Thursday. Readers can also expect to be treated to columns relaying the local, tame gossip of their hometowns. Then there is "Alice", similar to Anne Landers, or Dear Abby, a localized advice column where letters are signed by people such as "Party Line Potterville" or "Fat in Forkston" or "Holding the Bag Hollenback."

The Rocket is a paper that gives its readers more than just the news:

It gives them entertainment. More importantly, though, it gives them a sense of community.

"All aspects of life can be found in the pages of the *Rocket*: tragedies and triumphs, births and deaths, disagreements and celebration, laughter and tears," Carolyn Robinson, New Albany, PA, said.

"The *Rocket* helps to remind us of the good things about rural communities; family, God and country. It is hard to imagine Wyalusing and the surrounding area without these things and without the *Rocket-Courier* to show us them."

With a circulation of 5,500 that covers three counties, and part of a fourth, the *Rocket-Courier* maintains an avid following. The style of the *Rocket's* stories are play-by-play, case-by-case, shot-by-shot. They are not just a run down of the day's events; the accounts are instead woven together like a novel. Editor Wes Skillings, Wyalusing, demonstrates this in his weekly column, "Skill Unlimited", weaving his opinions into pieces which could also serve as a news story for the week. One week he writes:

"We had the opportunity to enjoy an entertaining show last Friday evening at the Keystone Theatre.

"Letters to the Editor," presented by the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble, certainly hit close to home. After all, I'd read through my share of letters to the editor over the years—

"There's no real sense of community on the Internet," Director Gerard Stropnick told me after the show. "That's a more special-interest type of communication. The 'Letters to the Editor' in communities like ours celebrate and deplore a shared environment."

Those letters to the editor are indeed another special feature of the *Rocket*, as they are in any other paper. And although Stropnick expressed that there is a lack of community on the Internet, if he were to look closely he would know there is since the *Rocket* boasts, "The Northern Tier's First Electronic News-"

per." The website displays a selection of those stories and features readers look for in the print version of the paper.

"*The Rocket* expresses the sentiments of the common people," Wayne Steele, Wyalusing, said. "It also has a personal approach to its stories. *The Rocket* has been called the biggest little paper in the country. It's only a weekly but when it comes out on Thursdays people can't wait to get their hands on it."

"Watching my father made me decide I didn't want to be in the journalism business."

Owner and proprietor of B&P Market, New Albany, Patty Stout, believes *The Rocket* offers more than a downtown feel but also gives readers the news which they are really interested in.

"When *The Rocket* comes out you can catch up on the news," Stout said. "You get local news in there that you would expect to see in a daily, such as the police blotter. *The Rocket* also goes into more detail with their stories. They do a more thorough story."

Skillings seems to agree that the more featurized news stories are what draws the readers.

"We do more news analysis and story recording," Skillings said. "To do this we tell the facts in more of a story form. The readers have already seen it in the daily paper by the time we come out so we have a more informal approach to the story. With a daily you are trying to get the story in that day. With a weekly, you can step back and take a look at it before you print it."

Hometown Proud and Family Run.

For almost 100 years the backbone of *The Rocket* has been the

Keeler family who took over the ownership of the newspaper, in 1894. The paper itself was originally founded in 1887.

The current owner and publisher of the paper, David Keeler, Wyalusing, isn't used to being the interviewee in an interview situation. Sitting at the desk across from a reporter he seems uncomfortable. Keeler, is the reporter, the former editor, it is unusual for him to be the one answering the questions. When it comes to answering questions about his father, the late William Keeler, he is soft spoken and gives short, yet thoughtful, answers.

"My dad was mayor of the town for eight years," he says. "I'm not ready to walk the tightrope between journalism and politics. I have no real aspirations to be in politics at this time in my life. I'm not saying I never will but not now."

David is the fifth generation of Keelers to own, edit, and publish the paper. Taking the paper from his father, in 1980, wasn't an easy or casual decision for David. But, his life has always involved the smell of printing ink, both growing up with his father at the paper and later when he pursued a degree in commercial printing and then again when he opened his own printing shop in 1972. Stepping away from the decision to take over the paper would have almost seemed unnatural for him. For his brother, Brian, however, the decision was even harder since he was pulled between a loyalty to his family and a desire to pursue his own goals. The decision for this Keeler, however, was made when Brian sold his half of the paper to David in 1982, to further explore a career in art.

"Watching my father made me decide I didn't want to be in the journalism business," David said. "It was the long hours that really scared me."

Skillings says he believes the Keeler brothers were also just sim-

ply wary of following in the footsteps of four previous generations of their family, as anyone might.

"I think Brian and David weren't sure they could run it," Skillings said. "At one point, they even thought of selling the paper to the *Scranton Times*. I think their position was similar to the son of a farmer who isn't sure he wants to take over the farm because he doesn't want to get stuck in the same rut his father has been stuck in for

"David has that same fire as his father Bill," Wayne Steele says.

so many years. But not taking over the paper would mean that four generations of Keelers owning it would be over."

And maybe for that sake of saving a legacy, Keeler himself doesn't even seem sure of the reason, the almost 100 years of Keeler ownership didn't end and still hasn't. It is something that is still carried on in Keeler.

Keeler isn't a man of few words, although his quiet voice and brief answers to questions may cause others to think so. The many words he does know and has to say are published each week, in *the Rocket*, in his weekly column entitled, "The Way I See It." Some might say print is more natural for Keeler than the spoken word.

"David has that same fire as his father Bill," Wayne Steele says. "If he gets something stuck in his craw he'll go right at it and let the people know."

In "The Way I See It," Keeler tells the reader what he has "stuck in his craw" for the week. He tells them who they should listen to, what they should think about, and how things should be done. He

"All aspects of life can be found in the pages of the *Rocket*: tragedies and triumphs, births and deaths, disagreements and celebrations, laughter and tears," Carolyn Robinson, said.

doesn't simply say: "Attacks on Kosovo, bad, staying home good."

He proclaims: "You have to respect Arizona Senator John McCain's opinion when it comes to sending American pilots to bomb targets in Kosovo." He says:

"Make sure you know where your kids are at night," and "don't just take a politician's word for it, know what they are talking about." One week it might be Kosovo, the next week it might be the town's police force being downsized. Another week it is kids riding their bikes on the sidewalks in town. Whatever it is though, the reader is sure to get a full dose of Keeler opinion.

Five Generations of Keeler Ownership

Getting a full dose of Keeler opinion is something readers of *The Rocket-Courier* have been used to since John Gregory Keeler and his two sons, John Vaughn and Van Day, bought the paper from John S. Hamaker in 1894. Hamaker had bought the paper in 1888 from its original owner and founder, Calvin A. Stowell, who started the paper in May of 1887. After Van Day, the ownership of the paper passed down to J. George Keeler in 1912; to David's uncle, John Keeler in 1946; and while John was off fighting in the Korean

War, to David's father, William Keeler.

Each new generation of the Keeler family has brought a change to the paper. The most important change was the name of the paper and the widening of the coverage area. The coverage area of the paper broadened three times until it encompassed the four counties it now serves, Bradford, Sullivan, Wyoming and part of Susquehanna. Historically, the circulation began to grow as four different weekly newspapers were combined over a 50 year period. John Vaughn Keeler started the process when he became the owner of the *Eastern Bradford Times*, a weekly newspaper published out of Leraysville, PA, a town ten miles outside of Wyalusing. This paper joined with *The Rocket* in 1946.

In 1923, George Keeler founded the *Wyoming County Courier*, a weekly newspaper which primarily served the Laceyville and Meshoppen area. In 1933 he began publishing the *Bradford County Post* which was circulated in the Towanda, PA, area. Finally, in 1973 the *Wyoming Courier* and *The Rocket* joined, creating the paper under its current name, the *Wyalusing Rocket-Courier*.

Though *The Rocket* has transformed in housing, printing and

name over the years, one thing has remained the same: it has remained a family owned business, independent of a powerful corporation and strict editorial control. The lack of this control is something Keeler and Skillings say they are glad to have even though it offers its difficulties.

"It's tough being an independent newspaper," Skillings said. "It is really week-to-week sometimes. With a chain you can get financial backing but right now we are doing fine financially."

Keeler said the independence is what he really likes

"One reason to keep it independent is that we have total control over what we write. We don't have to worry about offending an advertiser by what we print."

Being able to print what they want may be what has made the paper so popular and left it's readers with the down-home feel they desire. It isn't a big town newspaper, but then again Wyalusing isn't a big town. Those small town qualities are something *The Rockets* readers say those outside of the community can see reflected in the pages of their hometown newspaper.

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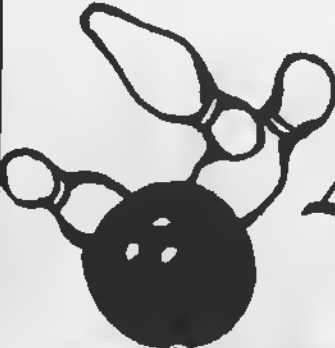
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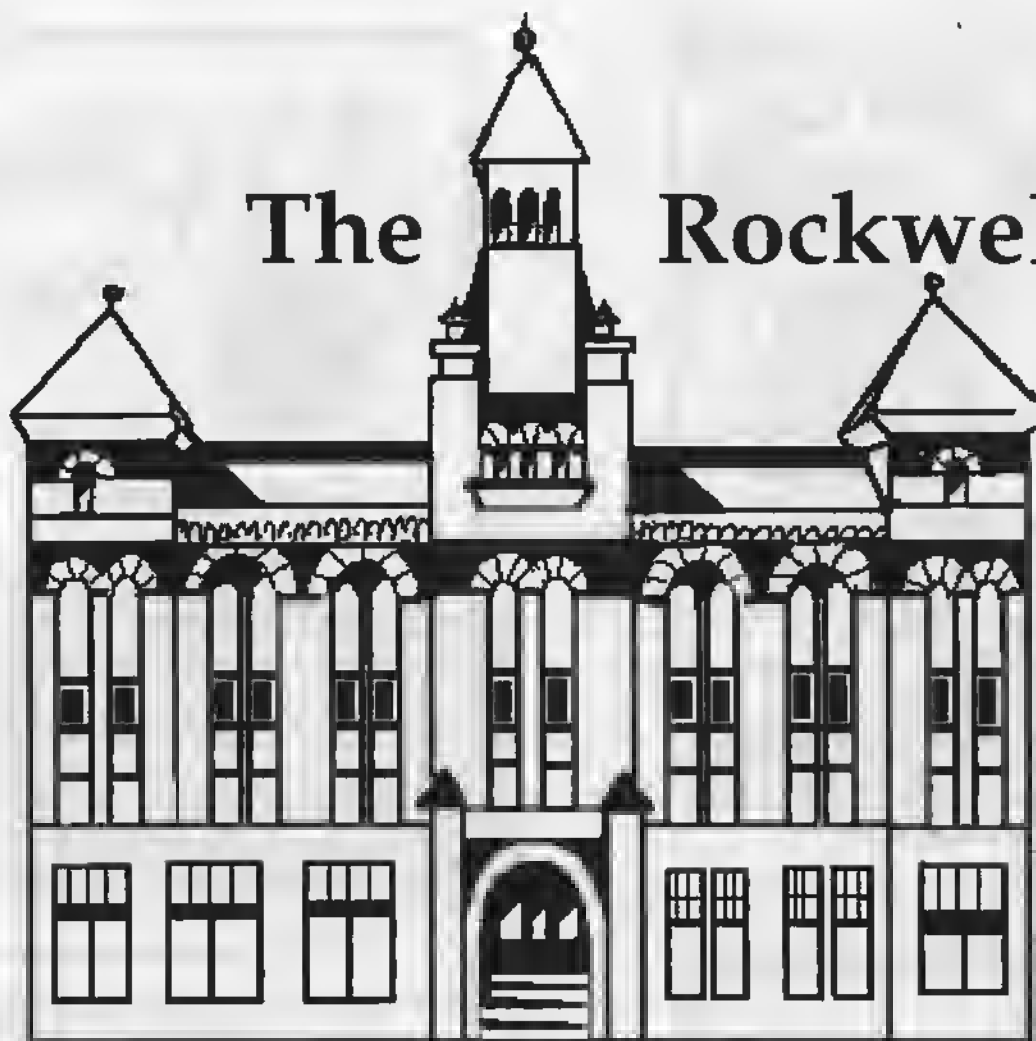
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The Rockwell



SKETCH BY: HOLLY BLYLER

A museum dedicated to education...and fun

by Holly Blyler

"How long did it take to make that?" one little girl asks the museum guide as she points to a painting.

"Good question," the guide, Lois Janes replies. "Quite a long time, probably a couple of years, or so."

This type of question and interaction can often be found at the Rockwell Museum in Corning, NY. The museum, named after its founder, Robert F. Rockwell, Jr., invites visitors and allows them to be able to enjoy the exhibits for themselves. The education department offers guided tours, assisted by a group of knowledgeable staff for both school groups and adult groups. Although the Rockwell

Museum exhibits are specifically designed with education and children in mind, it offers exhibits for students of all ages.

Perhaps the most unique aspect that attracts visitors is the "Please Touch" exhibit. This is the most popular with the kids. A small group of Junior Girl Scouts from Bloomfield, NY, was clearly excited when they actually got to touch the artifacts. Words like "cool" and "this is neat" echoed around young people that surrounded the objects they could handle.

"I liked the carved statues the best," said Arial Fairly, one of the girls from Troop #231.

Grace Simonds, one of the Girl Scout chaperones explained,

"We wanted to come to Corning because there's a lot of history here. We're only an hour away and we thought it would be both fun and educational to bring our girls to the museum."

Michelle Lang, another chaperone said, "We were over at the Corning Glass Museum yesterday where you just walk through and they tell you this is this and that is that. The nice part about the Rockwell Museum is that the kids can actually stop to touch things, so they can get involved."

More commonly, museums are perceived as institutions devoted strictly to the care and display of objects thought to be of lasting interest or value. The first museums

started as private collections of the aristocracy or the church, seen only by few. Over the past century in American museums, many private collections have merged their collections and developed them into educational facilities made available to the public.

"We take education very seriously," said Jennifer Monroe who is the director of education at the Rockwell Museum. "There are a number of programs and exhibitions we plan to suit the needs of both school students and adult learners."

Three major collections

The Rockwell Museum has been involved in education since 1976. Its first educational audience was designed for a fourth grade social studies curriculum that focused on the Frontier and Native American studies. Local teachers helped assist the museum staff to create learning objectives that students could meet through visits to the small art exhibits.

The Rockwell Museum serves almost 5,000 school students each year. That's more than any other regional museum. Local students come from the Schuyler, Chemung and Stueben county regions, in addition to the 50 mile radius including two northern Pennsylvania counties, Tioga and Bradford. Visitors also come from all over the world.

19th Century building

The Rockwell, formerly the Old City Hall, is a Romanesque revival building that was changed into a museum in 1893. It is a national registered property located in the Market Street Historic District of Corning. In the early 1980s the building was restored and made to look as it does today with red brick and three roof peaks, keeping the Romanesque theme alive.

The Rockwell began as a collection of paintings that were bought by Robert F. Rockwell, Jr. (He is no relation to the American artist Norman Rockwell - although the museum does contain one of Norman Rockwell's rare western theme paintings.) Raised on a ranch in Colorado, Robert gained an early appreciation of the American West. He settled in Corning, NY, after college to run his grandfather's department store, and in 1941 he married his wife, Hertha. He started his collection of American Western art in 1960.

As his collections began to grow, he needed a place to house them. With the help of the community, he decided to put the art work on display so that not only could he store them, but people also could see the art. In turn, the museum's permanent collection has grown since 1982 through generous donations from the Rockwell family and other supporters.

The Rockwell Museum contains three diverse art collections: American West art and artifacts; Carder Glass; and antique toys. The museum is not just a place where pictures hang, or where glass and old toys are kept for storage.

"We have to make the art become more meaningful to people, or the museum won't be meaningful to anyone," says Jenny Monroe.

The Native American collection is an excellent resource for anyone who may be of Indian descent or anyone who is simply just interested in the lives of American Indians.

Museum education is a vital source of learning art today. With guided tours, museum videos, and now the Internet, the traditional museum doesn't stand a chance against the changing of time. Monroe insists that it is only the untraditional museums that will be able to survive into the next millenium by changing the standards of a typical museum. Muse-

ums no longer can afford to just simply be a large warehouse. All of the new technology and resources have made it easy for the public to access information from all over the world. Now that the Rockwell Museum has its own web site, it has broadened its range of visitors. It also has increased the number of museum supporters who contributed to more donations of art and other fundings that help to keep the Rockwell going.

In addition to the permanent collections of art, the museum features special events and has three scheduled exhibits every year.

Lectures and workshops

The Rockwell Museum provides lectures and workshops for adults and programs for children and families. Programs such as "The Museum and Me" and "Artstart" are introduction classes available for preschool and kindergarten. Additional classes are designed for children by their grade level from 1-3, 4-6, and 7-12. Adults can enjoy special workshops that may vary from hands-on art classes to literary discussions and lectures.

A custom designed Art & Cultural program which includes a range of day trips, multiple-day excursions, and even week-long tours in the U.S. and abroad is also available through the museum. The tours are destined toward places where there is art, historical sites, or opportunities to meet artists or explore different cultures.

When asked what she likes the best about working there, museum guide Lois Janes replies, "The kids are enthusiastic and it's fun. They enjoy it and it's nice to watch them respond to the art." With its extensive educational opportunity, The Rockwell Museum can be enjoyed by all ages.



Sam Donaldson brings his 'view from Washington' to Mansfield

by Kimberly Sapone

Sam Donaldson, 30-year ABC news veteran, visited the Mansfield University campus on April 20, 1999. Donaldson is the current chief White House correspondent for ABC news.

Throughout his career, Donaldson has interviewed such celebrities as former president George Bush, Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall, General Colin Powell, billionaire fugitive cocaine trafficker Pablo Escobar, and Nazi war criminal Erich Priebke.

His first stop was a press conference and a meeting with several MU communication and political science students in the traditional reading room of North Hall. Members of the press asked their questions and then the floor was opened to students.

One of the first questions that was asked of Donaldson was whether or not he agreed with the way the media covered the Clinton and Lewinsky scandal. He not only agreed, but he also chastised President Clinton for the way he behaved throughout the scandal.

"The quickest way to make certain a reporter stays with it is to, number one, say 'I'm not going to tell you', number two, lie, or number three, don't practice what you preach," Donaldson stated.

Donaldson spoke to the students about being a reporter at the White House during many different presidential terms. He also spoke about learning very quickly how to

act with the President of the United States.

"Do not be social friends with those people," he said.

Donaldson also made sure to let the audience know that President Clinton is not alone -- all presidents do lie. He said that every president needs to realize that they have to obey the laws, and if they don't, then they need to be prepared to face the consequences.

"I respected all presidents to one degree or another," Donaldson stated.

After a dinner held in his honor, Donaldson addressed the public in Mansfield University's Decker Gymnasium. He was introduced by Dr. John Halstead, who gave a brief biography, and then told the crowd his thoughts on the media.

"Television is a powerful communication vehicle," Halstead told the audience. "Sam has earned the respect of his colleagues and his viewers."

An energetic Donaldson then took the podium. He began his speech entitled "The View From Washington," by talking about the Clinton and Lewinsky scandal, and he offered some of his thoughts on it.

"You knew from the first day in the press room -- we knew he was lying," he said.

He then gave the crowd advice that he learned through many years as one of the world's esteemed

journalists. He began by saying that if you ask a direct question and you don't get a direct answer, then you know that the person is lying. He also shared his thoughts on keeping the boss happy.

"If I learned one thing in my life, it's if you can accommodate the boss, things go better for you."

After a short but interesting speech, Donaldson was more than eager to answer questions from the crowd. He jokingly told the audience that if he was asked about Barbara Walters, Cokie Roberts, or Diane Sawyer, he would be more than willing to answer.

People stood in line to ask Donaldson questions about everything, including his thoughts on family values, the similarities between Kosovo and Vietnam, how to deal with sources and confidentiality, his most fascinating interview, and how he felt when he first met Bill Clinton.

After the question and answer period, Dr. Halstead presented Donaldson with a red and black Mansfield sweatshirt, and an MU coffee mug. He asked Donaldson to put the mug on his desk for 20/20.

Sam Donaldson was another celebrity in a list that includes James Earl Jones and Barbara Bush to visit Mansfield University over the past few years. Donaldson's speech was a part of the Inauguration celebration of Mansfield University's 25th president, Dr. Halstead.

In Penns Creek, PA:

A sanctuary for noble beasts

by Jill Mancini

Tucked away off Route 104 sits an ordinary brown house with an extraordinary little-known secret. Unbeknownst to many in the quaint town of Penns Creek, near Lewisburg, PA, there is a very popular home for residents who have been abused, mistreated, neglected, or "thrown-away" by their previous caretakers. Just beyond the entrance of the Mattive family's barn, on over 100 acres of cleared forest, cats cry among the neighs and baahs of sheep and goats, sending chills up visitor's spines and making hair stand on end. However, it's not recommended that these cats use the litterbox or play with balls of yarn. These animals tip the scales at over 100-700 pounds each.





PHOTOGRAPHY BY: JILL MANCINI

"This is truly a labor of love," says Jennifer Mattive-Beaver as she walks through the slush and snow of January 23rd. She is speaking of her father Terry, whose entire pension fund pays for food and shelter for his animals at T&D Cats of the World. A former state trooper, Terry and his family take care of more than 39 large cats and many other species of exotic animals. Mattive's collection of felines include lions, tigers, cougars, bobcats, leopards, and a black panther.

Sharing a household with exotic animals is routine for the Mattive family. "We've had an alligator, monkey, parrot, and many other exotic animals as I was growing up," says Jennifer, as she pulls a

twig out of her rain-soaked brown ponytail. Even though it is only noontime, she has already put in a long day of work cleaning out cages.

In the late 80s, the Mattives began their crusade to help wildlife when they agreed to take in some white-tail deer that were brought to them by the state game commission. Eventually more and more people started to bring numerous animals to this 20-acre farm. None were ever turned away. This past summer, seven cats were brought to the sanctuary and more arrive frequently.

"I hope he comes out for you to see him today," says Jennifer, bent down next to a tall circular cage. "You'll have to be real quiet, though." Inside a rock formation, a

makeshift home, two yellow eyes stare out through the darkness. Jennifer speaks of Buggy, a young, black leopard who was neglected by his owner after his days of stardom in movies and commercials ended. Only used to make money and given very little attention, Buggy was very skittish and fearful of people when first brought to T&D's. However, time and kindness by the Mattive family has restored his faith and confidence in some people. Buggy is calm and content here but his fear of humans still remains.

T&D's Cats of the World made its grand opening in 1986 to needy, helpless animals, and in 1990 opened its doors to the public for tours. Its main objective is not to

" 'If he were to be put into the pen with the other lions, they would probably kill him because he is different,' " Jennifer says. A graduate of Penn State University, Jennifer has spent countless hours caring for these animals.



Jennifer Mative-Beaver stands by the lion pen at the refuge.

exploit the animals, but to educate the public about these exotic creatures. T&D's is open 16 Sundays a year from May until September, or upon special request. Funded entirely by private contributions, T&D's preserve exists on donations and volunteered labor to help perpetuate its cause. Many school groups have toured through this wilderness reserve and that money also helps with the upkeep of the refuge.

Tigers that were once circus attractions now lay in the hay at T&D's and bask in the sun for hours on end, without fear of being reprimanded for not learning tricks fast enough for their trainers. One long-suffering animal, Rayden, a lion from Ohio, was only fed hamburger and acquired a calcium deficiency. At only two years old, his bones are deformed, causing him to hunch over when he walks. He is unable to stand up straight. He sometimes socializes with the other cats for short periods of time, but mostly he is happiest living alone.

"If he were to be put into the pen with the other lions, they would probably kill him because he is different," Jennifer says. A graduate of Penn State University, Jennifer has spent countless hours caring for these animals. Both Jennifer and her father are licensed by Pennsylvania to rehabilitate animals, and as long as people give up their pets that they can no longer care for, the Mative's services will be needed.

Not only is exotic pet ownership prevalent in Pennsylvania, but it is widespread throughout the country. An estimated 5,000 large cats are owned privately in the United States. Although some of



CATS of the WORLD T&D'S REFUGE FOR LARGE CATS

PHOTO PROVIDED BY SOURCE

these pets are taken very good care of, many are mistreated and malnourished.

"Not many people consider the responsibility of caring for a large cat when they obtain it as a cuddly cub," says Jennifer, while reaching her gloved index finger through fencing to pet a tiger that nestles close by.

"When people can't care for them anymore, they turn to T&D's for help, or a last resort," she says.

If cats are not placed here, there are other options. They could be sold to breeders, who generate more and more cubs. "We try our best not to breed our animals here," Jennifer says. Another option for private owners is to sell cats to game ranches. At such ranches, customers pay a few thousand dollars to shoot at cats caged in a confined area. Finally, exotic animals can be

sold to an auction where the animal can later be re-sold to just about anybody.

There are very few sanctuaries where cats can go, and most zoos are limited in their space to provide a home for them too. Since all of T&D's animals were born in captivity and among humans, they are not frisky enough for a zoo to be interested in them. Sheena, a male Siberian Tiger, was brought to the refuge by a zoo that didn't want him when he was only four days old. The animals cannot be returned back to the wild because they don't know how to hunt. Most of their parents were born in captivity, so there was no role model for them to learn the ways of the wild for themselves.

The lions and tigers at the sanctuary eat approximately 800 pounds of meat per month. The Mattive family, along with local

farmers, help to fuel these carnivorous palates. The farmers give their dead cows to the refuge for the cats' consumption. In all, the cats at T&D's consume 15 cows a month along with donated grain and chicken.

Planning for the future of the sanctuary's population, the Mattive family has begun major expansions. In the beginning, there were only 10 acres of land to build on. Now the family owns 100 acres and counting.

Currently, the Mattives are hoping to raise enough money to build a three-acre tiger pen so the animals have more natural areas to roam through.

"It's going to take a lot of time and money, but we try to do our best for these guys and they give us love and respect in return," says Jennifer.

by Charles Kepner

Braving the Storm

On February 1, 1998, Greg Congdon's life spiraled out of control. He took an overdose of Tylenol, and the only person he told was someone he was chatting with on the Internet. A person from California was the only one who knew the secret that Greg was keeping and hoping to take to his grave. The person in turn called 911 and got Greg the help that he needed. His life was saved by a stranger he had never met. Someone thought that his life was worth saving.

At the hospital, the doctors asked what was the reason for this attempt. He told his doctor the secret that had been eating at him since he was 13 years old: he's gay. Feeling safe and secure that this realization would be held in confidentiality, he felt relieved in telling his doctors. In the days after his return from the hospital, he was getting ready to go back to school, when his best friend told him that everyone knew that he was gay. The news allegedly came from a hospital employee.

Congdon was distressed but determined to brave the storm. But when he returned to school, at Troy High School, his friends were no longer as before. He felt he was an outcast. Congdon had been a popular student. Now some of his former teammates made passing threats that if he continued in his pursuit of sports, his life would be a living hell. Under these circumstances, Congdon left school. He was homeschooled for the rest of his junior year. Now in his senior year, he is working on his GED.

Growing up in his native Troy, Congdon enjoyed many outdoor activities. He is a hunter, a fisherman, a football player, and a wrestler. He has two loving parents, and an older sister. Congdon had the reputation for getting along with everyone. One of his friends de-



scribed Greg as an "all-American" type; one of those kids who makes a likable friend.

Despite Congdon's outgoing nature, he has decided to sue the Troy Community Hospital for damages. Congdon's local newspaper, the Towanda Daily Review stated, in a story on January 7, 1999,

"The lawsuit, filed in Bradford County Common Pleas Court, alleges that Troy Community Hospital and a hospital employee breached his patient confidentiality, interfered with his privacy rights, and caused him 'extreme shame, embarrassment and humiliation'."

Congdon's court claim doesn't seem to incite so many people as the fact that he has granted interviews to people from ESPN, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *XY Magazine*, and the *Towanda Daily Review*. He is shining a spotlight on Troy, and some people there just don't like it. People have stopped outside his house and yelled obscenities, he says.

Greg defines Troy as a "typical little farm town." Troy is known across the state for its fairgrounds and Farm Museum. It's one of those small beautiful towns that dots the landscape of Bradford County and northeastern Pennsylvania.

Troy is a rural community where everyone knows your name, your family heritage, and all about you. Downtown, people on the street are always saying "hello," and "nice weather," just making small talk. They try and make outsiders feel welcomed. But for Congdon, all the goodness of small-town life became difficult after news of his personal life became known.

"Being gay almost cost me my life, it took away everything, but all I can do now is move on," he says. "Hopefully letting others know that they are not alone." Greg says that he is trying to create some good out of a bad situation.

"It's important to get awareness out if it's going to help one person," he says. Others have responded favorably to his case. He has received countless letters of support from people all over the world after appearing in different media publications. He finds all the media attention "overwhelming."

Congdon had no desire to become an icon. Now that his sexuality has become an open discussion, his case has been made an example in the ongoing social dialogue about gay rights. Societally, television shows like "Friends," "Felicity," "Dawson's Creek," and "Will & Grace" have brought the topic of homosexuality into the mainstream of America.

There is no doubting that this experience has opened up a dialogue in Troy. After all the dust settles from the Congdon case, the community will have joined others like it across the United States that have had to deal with the issues of acceptance and diversity in their own environments.

A group... a home... a family...

by Tonya Baumgarner

It is 3:15 in the Southern Tioga School District. By now, kids are anticipating going home as they crowd on the busses. Jamie Michaels is going home too. In the mini-van he talks with his four peers about his day's events and his plans for the weekend. He tells a joke he learned. He wonders what's for dinner.

The van pulls into the drive of a gray two-story Victorian house on Sherwood Street in Mansfield, Pa. The occupants exit the van and go inside with their lunch boxes in hand. One individual relaxes in a reclining chair, two go to their bedrooms to watch television and read magazines, while two remain standing by the dining room table as they chat with one another and with the home's staff members. Michaels, like his house mates, is mentally disabled, and this is the house he calls home.

The house in which Michaels and his peers reside is one of four group homes in Mansfield and is supplied by Martha Lloyd Community Services, a facility for the mentally disabled. Martha Lloyd houses its main office in Troy, Pa., but has expanded its services through the years.

Although many of its clients have families, Martha Lloyd is like a second home where the clients can learn life skills, receive assistance in daily routines, and live in a supportive atmosphere. Some of the clients go home to their families on the weekends, but during the week

the clients are like family to one another.

Males and females ranging from 23 to 60 years of age share the comfortable living arrangement of the spacious four-bedroom home. Aside from having bedrooms to store their personal belongings, they share all other living quarters, like any other family. Laughter surrounds the dinner table. Love surrounds the home.

During regular school hours, Michaels and his peers attend what is called an Adult Training Facility (ATF), which is held in the St. James

Apartments in Mansfield. ATF consists of four segments to supply the different needs of the individuals: There is a senior room for the elderly, where the individuals participate in leisurely activities and do arts and crafts if they wish. There is a room for the severely mentally disabled, in which these individuals also participate in leisurely activities. The "general population" room teaches learning skills, and lastly, a room called "transitional training" emphasizes the learning of job skills. Not only do the Sherwood Street residents attend ATF, but so do the



The Sherwood Street residence

PHOTOGRAPHY BY: TONYA BAUMGARNER

individuals of the other three group homes in Mansfield and also some residents of the Martha Lloyd home in Troy.

Like any other person who looks forward to going home from a long day of work or school, so do these individuals. The house director of Sherwood Street, Annette Schimpf, describes the home as "a big family." It is a "comfortable nice place for these people to spend the rest of their lives," she says. A brightly colored aquarium filled with fat goldfish stands in the corner of the living room. Elaine, the eldest client of the home, has her own comfortable reclining chair next to the aquarium. The clients share a television and V.C.R. The coffee table is scattered with magazines. Pictures hang on the papered walls along with a potpourri arrangement in shades of rose made by one client's mother.

Schimpf sees the home as a middle grounds. "The clients learn all the stuff they need to learn here so maybe they can go out someday and live on their own," she says. Such things include the routine handling of their own medications, personal hygiene and basic

"I thank the people for all the kindness they've given me."

household chores.

Later in the evening 36-year-old Les Barren, dressed in faded jeans and a sweatshirt, sinks into the living room couch and props his sock feet on the coffee table.

"I like it here, even though I have rough days. It's a good stepping stone," he says, smiling. "I think it's beneficial that people get the care they need here—they have opportunities. Some need more help than others."

Barren says he's thankful for the support he has received from his family. He feels welcome in the community.

"I think the town is clean, and I think the people in the town are kind and courteous. I think the town has got good growth in it. Kids can go to college here and get a good education," he says.

Annette Schimpf describes the home as "a big family."

As for the eight staff members working at Sherwood Street, Barren thinks they are wonderful. "I thank the people for all the support and kindness they've given me," he says.

What's his favorite thing about living in the group home? "The love and kindness I've gotten here and the care I get," he answers.

Special education students at Mansfield University have had the opportunity through the years to experience first-hand what the group homes are like. More recently the Sherwood Street group home has been the designated resource for these students as the residents there have been graciously accepting of the students visiting their home. It takes more than reading books and taking tests for students to really understand the special needs of these individuals. Students need hands-on experience, which is what they get when taking a class called Methods II: Students in Need of Life Skills Support.

Rick Lucero, who instructs the class, sees the positive opportunities for his students to be permitted to observe and become acquainted with the residents at Sherwood Street.

"We get a whole range of responses from the students," Lucero says. "Students often are nervous or afraid of how they (the

residents) might act." He explains that a majority of the students are uncomfortable around the residents in the beginning of the semester, but "once they spend time there and see they are individuals, by the end of the class, we see a bit more positive and understanding response."

Ultimately, Lucero feels that visits with these residents prepare the students to feel more comfortable and ready to teach.

Aside from the Methods II class, Lucero says that other students, mainly members involved in a university organization called Council of Exceptional Children (C.E.C.) also have the opportunity to become acquainted with these residents, as well as other developmentally disabled individuals. The organization not only hosts dances at the university for the individuals, but also is involved with coaching them during the annual Special Olympics held on the university's track field.

Lucero believes the community is becoming more and more accepting of these individuals. "I think the more visible the people are the more fears go away, as there is not as much of a mystery about them. We need

"Les and Denny get together and talk about bluegrass."

to educate our children and parents," he says.

Although it appears that many people are accepting of the group home's residents living among the community, the issue was put to the test when Sherwood Street group home announced its anticipated move to First Street. Many neighbors on First Street were uneasy with the idea of these individuals residing on their street. In fact, some of the neighbors



From left: House director Annette Schimpf, and direct-care workers Nancy Smith and Donna Loudon

appeared to be downright disgusted, regardless of the fact that current neighbors on Sherwood Street are saddened by the idea of the group home moving. The fears of those on First Street were expressed during a town meeting and ranged from thinking their property values may go down if there is a group home on the street, to fearing the individuals will be loud and create commotion on the street.

Lucero feels that a lack of exposure to mentally disabled individuals caused this "fear of the unknown."

"People hear retarded and get a negative vision in their heads of what these people are like," says Lucero. "It's a generation thing," he suggests, as he explains the fact that older generations haven't been as exposed to these individuals as the younger generations.

"Even though these neighbors see them in Bi-Lo and Wal-Mart, etc...they think, that's someone else dealing with them, not me." Lucero also pointed out the fact that nothing suggests the property values of the homes on First Street will go down just because there is a

group home on the street.

"They are a nice group of adults and they keep their yards and homes looking nice," he adds. "If neighbors (on First Street) don't handle the move I see it as the neighbor's problem. Just because an individual is born with a disability they don't give up their rights of belonging in a community," he says.

"We didn't realize the (Sherwood Street) home was a group home when we moved here six or seven years ago," says neighbor Sandy Clemens. "It was awhile before we knew, but when we did find out it didn't matter."

Clemens says that she first became acquainted and made friends with Brenda, a client who no longer resides in the home. "Brenda would come around and look in the window at Kirsten (Clemens' granddaughter) when she was a baby," she says.

Meanwhile, Clemens' husband Denny "hit it off with Les. Les and Denny get together and talk about bluegrass," says Clemens. She goes on to tell that Denny occasionally takes Les out for coffee and that when it snows, Les frequently shovels a path on the sidewalk in

front of the Clemens' house.

"Les came over once and asked us to pray for his mom when she was sick," remembers Clemens. "Denny worries about Les—like when his sugar was up and he wasn't feeling well," she adds.

Clemens says that she hasn't heard a negative comment from the neighbors about the Sherwood Street home.

"They have a place just like everybody else has a place here. If you're scared of them and don't reach out to them you're missing out. If you don't let them love you, you're missing out on a lot," she concludes.

Lucero is thankful for the cooperation the group homes have expressed while his students observe the daily routines there. "A lot of times the individuals really teach our students. They show the students they are human beings," says Lucero.

Human beings in a residential neighborhood, caring for one another and doing everyday things you and your families do. At the end of the day, that's what creates the warm glow in the windows that those passing by will notice of the Martha Lloyd group homes.

Dear Dorotha

by Angie McKee

Sometimes the story of a life is told in tales of heroism, drama, or perhaps even social influence. Sometimes the story of a life engages the reader with the sheer power of its simplicity.

Down a long hall of fancy blue wallpaper and dark gray carpet at the Country Terrace Retirement Community in Wellsboro, PA, Dorotha Bohnert relaxes in a wooden glider trimmed in green upholstery, furnishing the far-left corner of her efficiency.

Perhaps her name should have been Dorotha "Goodheart." An elder woman of a gentle and kind spirit, she looks out placidly from behind black metal frames hugging snug to her nose.

Two Ty Beanie Baby frogs lazily lounge on top of Dorotha's glider. A metal floor lamp stands by. Across hangs down from the lamp's on/off switch reading, "With God all things are possible."

Pots full of pleasant flowers line the windowsill. A cactus picture rendered in a western motif hangs on the wall up and to the left of the glider. Overlaid with an orange and white dishtowel, a metal tray holds a few personal items: a red-and-white *Mead* memo pad, and a box covered in a pink and green floral design. The box holds treasured letters and an address book keeping track of loved ones and dear friends. Directly in front of the glider lies a dark green rug where Dorotha rests her small feet, dressed in a pair of tan flats.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY SOURCE

In this setting, Dorotha is one of 29 residents at Country Terrace, a retirement facility connected to the Broad Acres Nursing Home, which Dorotha refers to as, "the last resort."

Dorotha is soon to be 84, and she appears amazingly healthy. She's active, and still gets around in her 1995 Ford Taurus.

"I'm happy I've got it and am able to drive yet," says Dorotha, who makes the most of a vigor not typical of others at her stage in life.

If you scanned Dorotha's efficiency, you'd notice the teddy bears that drape the floral comforter, blanketing her wooden post bed. You'd perhaps take note of the magnets scattered and pictures tattered and curled at the ends with age on Dorotha's mini fridge. The Thanksgiving turkey we've all made in kindergarten by tracing our hands and coloring them in, is stuck among the mags and pics sprinkled on the fridge. This one reads, "Grandma Bohnert." A tall wooden corner

cupboard displays souvenir bells; Vermont, Ohio, 50th anniversary they read. And if you look deeper still you'll discover the tale of a widow and a life lived long and well.

"My mother used to say 'hard scrabble' - that means hard work and slow getting there I guess," remembered Dorothea as she spoke of how she and her family lived on a farm in Morris, PA, during her youth. She said that the farm then was nothing like the farm today, "It was simple."

Dorothea was the only girl out of three children, the middle child between two boys. Her father had passed away when her younger brother, Ray, was just a senior in high school. Ray and her mother took over and saved the Morris farm. Now Ray, and his wife, Peggy, live on the homestead, and their sons, David and Terry, have taken over the farm duties. Just as her father was handy with a saw and tools, so are Ray's boys.

"I often think if my Mom and Dad were to come back, they'd hardly know the place," she says, "It's just beautiful."

Though not a master with tools, Dorothea did try her hand at playing the piano. Recalling when her parents bought her a \$500 piano (quite expensive for that time) to practice her lessons on, Dorothea's face reflects a look of burning desire for Dorothea never finished learning how to play the piano.

"They say you have to bitter with the sweet. Oh, I think about it so much. The piano sits right there," she says pointing. "If only I could play for church Sunday nights."

After growing up in Morris, Dorothea would spend much of what could be called "the Franklin years" in Covington. Franklin is Dorothea's dear late husband and lifelong love.

"He was a hard worker and good help with the children. Anything they wanted to do, he was willing that they should."

Dorothea was Franklin's second wife and second mother to Franklin's children. His first wife had sadly passed away at an early age, leaving Franklin to father three children on his own, ages one, four and five. When Franklin and Dorothea got married, Dorothea helped to raise Peggy, Joe, and Barbara, and gave birth to the two sons of their own, Lyle and Dwaine. "D-W-A-I-N-E. Dr. Webster (the doctor from Wellsboro hospital that delivered Dwaine) always said that's more distinct," recalls the proud mother.

Dorothea's one-time musical interest must have rubbed off on Lyle and Dwaine, for both were quite successful in playing the accordion. Dwaine doesn't keep up with it much anymore, but Lyle does along with his three children, Brian, Lisa, and Allen, who dabble in music as well. Like most grandparents, Dorothea speaks eagerly of her grandchildren.

Dorothea says about herself that she's 'kind of like a kid, I guess!'

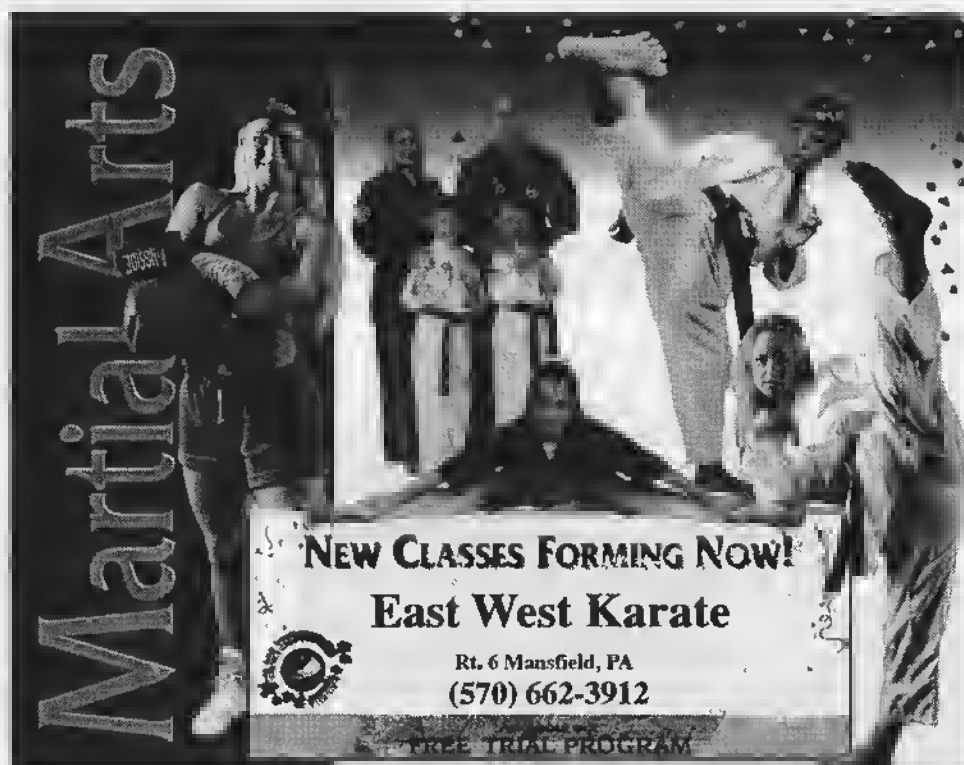
Talent and success run deep for Dorothea's family. Her grandson, Brian, having excellent grades in college, is on a full academic scholarship at the University of Missouri. Allen, who had received straight A's all four years in college "decided to be a lawyer" (she laughs), "but now he's got another thing in his mind - he's going to be married in August." As for her granddaughter, Lisa: "She loves to travel. She doesn't have a boyfriend yet at 26. She says she can't find anyone who doesn't drink or

smoke."

Dorothea's other grandson, Paul, who is Dwaine's son, is a teacher in Lock Haven as well as the winner of a regional proficiency award from Penn State. He specializes in agricultural production. Not only has success been kind to Dorothea's grandchildren, but others in her family are quite familiar with success as well. If you recognize Dorothea's maiden name, Butters, then you've probably heard of the Butters' mobile home business, owned by one of Dorothea's nephews.

Dorothea has been forced to enjoy her family without husband Franklin for the past year and a half. Her grandchildren, Brian, Lisa, and Allen all played their instruments at their grandfather's funeral. Before Franklin's death, he and Dorothea had both taken ill, she recalls. While Dorothea was recovering, Franklin's health worsened, leaving Dorothea to care for him, while battling with a case of depression. That's when they waved so long to their home in Covington and relocated to Country Terrace. Franklin was there but four short months before passing away, and Dorothea has remained there since. She maintains that when they sold the house in Covington, they gave most of their stuff away to the kids.

"But," she says, "if you look around here," she laughs, "I still own a few things." From the Ty Beanie Baby collection, which Dorothea claims that most have just been given to her, to the teddy bear collection she began in Covington, Dorothea says about herself that she's "kind of like a kid, I guess!" And to what does she attribute to her good health and youthful attitude? "I guess working outside and inside both, and good food. Keeping busy," Dorothea says - as always, with a laugh.



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From hops to beans

The Bullfrog Brewery and the Market Street Brewing Company are specialists in the art of microbrews.

The Cyber Cafe also specializes in brewing, but in the art of brewing rich, gourmet coffee.

The following pages detail the beginnings of these three businesses, and their contributions to the Twin Tiers area.

Cheers to Microbrews

by David Storey

The Bullfrog Brewery of Williamsport, Pennsylvania and the Market Street Brewing Company located in Corning, New York are two regional establishments that offer twin tiers' residents a sample of the microbrewery trend developing across the United States.



PHOTOGRAPHY BY: DAVID STOREY

The Bullfrog Brewery

The Bullfrog opened up shop in its old brick building on West Fourth Street in downtown Williamsport during August 1996. Unlike the Market Street Brewing Company, which describes itself as a "brewpub," the Bullfrog takes on the title of a microbrewery. Although there is very little difference between the two, the Bullfrog offers a limited amount of beer for distribution.

As you walk into the brewery, which is across the street from the Penn College Arts Center, the warm scent of fresh beer permeates the air. The establishment, which is now only two years old, became an instant hit and the long solid oak bar is always lined with many familiar faces.

"The first months were absolutely nuts," says Diane Burris, Manager. "We were just packed all the time." Like most other taverns in the city, they have acquired a set group of regulars, who now call the Bullfrog their local.

Burris herself moved to

Williamsport from Seattle to run the brewery for her friend Charles Schnable. Schnable and best friend Steve Koch opened the establishment after years of practicing homebrewing as a hobby. Since then the two have exchanged their home brew kit for large brass-finished brewing equipment, tanks that are so well polished you are able to see your reflection as clear as day.

The men who had a dream of one-day owning their own bar now produce over four different kinds of beer. This includes their rich red ale named "Susquehanna Stout," which won the best ale award at the 1998 State College Microbreweries Festival. "It was a pretty big festival, with big names there," says Burris, describing the number of breweries they had to compete against to win that award. Another award winner that year was the Indian Pale Ale, which received the People's Choice award for its 7.1 percent alcohol content and hoppy richness.

The beer, which is brewed on

location, takes an average of eight hours to make. It is then moved into one of the six tall fermenting tanks, that stand in a row behind the bar, for two weeks to two months. The next step is carbonation, which lasts for a day, and then the beer is ready to flow from the tanks to serve thirsty patrons.

A popular feature at the Bullfrog is the Pub Club, which could be described as a frequent drinkers club. For \$20 a month, you receive a special 20-ounce glass and then you only pay for a 16-ounce beer. Other incentives include discounts on food and merchandise as well as beer tasting events.

One such patron is Rico Noom. As Noom sits on a barstool, it is hard to determine his height. His head has been shaved and he sits observing the others that are enjoying a late afternoon drink. In one hand he has a tall glass of rich dark ale and in the other a long fat cigar from which he takes a long enjoyable drag. Noon was the brewery's first customer and the Pub Club's

first member. They serve "real beer" he says as he reaches for another gulp.

As well as the popular Pub Club, the Bullfrog offers entertainment, food and now liquor, thanks to its recently acquired license. Although the bottles are hidden under the bar due to the brewing equipment, which claims most of the space, you are guaranteed 15 different kinds of Tequila. The Bullfrog offers an extensive menu which includes Italian specialties, Sandwiches and "Bullfrog Grub" which has everything from chili waffle fries to onion bloomers. A favorite among customers is the Grilled Portabello Sandwich. The sandwich includes portabello mushroom caps, red onions, mixed greens, horseradish, and provolone cheese all served on an English muffin and enough to make anyone's mouth water.

The Market Street Brewery

The Market Street Brewing Company and Restaurant opened in June 1997 on Corning's Market Street. The brewery calls itself a brewpub, which is an establishment that brews beer on location for consumption as well as serving liquor and food. Brewer Pelham McClellan says, "sales are so good here" that the enterprise does not need to distribute.

Unlike the Bullfrog in Williamsport, the Market Street Brewery had more competition from the many other bars and restaurants that are frequented by the workers at nearby Corning Incorporated. However, McClellan, whose voice is almost drowned out by the noise of the large brewing tanks as he gets ready to make a fresh batch of beer, shouts that there are no other brewpubs in town and that may be what keeps them a step above the rest.

Since the brewery opened its doors for business, McClellan has brewed 10 different styles of lagers



and ales. Six different kinds are guaranteed on tap at one time. The beers on tap at Market Street take an average of 10 to 12 hours to brew. From there, the batch is moved to fermentation tanks for three to five days. Unlike the Bullfrog, whose beer is moved to a secondary fermentation or conditioning tank for two weeks, this beer is ready for consumption.

Among the popular ales and lagers on tap is their blackberry ale and Old English ale. Blackberry ale is a mixture of the berry to a small amount of lager to produce a very complex fruit beer. The Old English ale is made in the traditional British style and uses six different malts and two different brown sugars.

Another major difference between the two breweries is regulations imposed by the states where the breweries do business. Market Street is described as a family-oriented establishment. The walls around the bar boast coasters that are given to children to color while they and their families enjoy a meal on the wooden deck. On the other hand, the Bullfrog has a strict "over-21" policy. This is due in part because the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board says if beer sales are higher than food sales, admittance to those younger than 21 are forbidden.

The rich color and fresh taste of the beers that the Bullfrog and Market Street brewing companies offer is the key to their success. There is really nothing brewed in a bottle that compares to their beer according to loyal patrons. Burris at the Bullfrog says she "hates to compare our beer to one on the market" adding that she can no longer get a good bottle of beer. So perhaps next time you are heading to the beer distributor if in Pennsylvania or the grocery store if a New Yorker, why not check out one of our area's up-and-coming microbreweries.





Grind the beans, add the mocha, and boot up....

by Christina Draper

Up the narrow stairs to the Cyber Café, the aroma of fresh ground coffee awakens the senses almost at once. At its new home on Wellsboro's Main Street, the Cyber Café is a place to relax with a good book and a cup of joe, gourmet style.

Owned by Rob and Janice Whittemore, the Cyber Café began as a tanning salon. The business started about three years ago across the street of the present location on Main Street. The idea of the coffee house came from Rob.

"I love gourmet coffee, and the idea of the coffee house was something that I always wanted to do," Rob says.

The couple decided to relocate their business and began looking for something that was unique and well located for their customers. When they first saw the long-vacant room, a former restaurant, above The Gaslight, they knew it was perfect. It was uniquely designed, and Rob thought that being upstairs was different too.

Once they had their new place, they needed to remodel to fit both businesses. They took half of the area and built tanning rooms for the Sunworks part of the business. Rob expanded the waitress's area to accommodate computers and expanded the bar to fit coffee and cappuccino machines.

The Cyber Café opened its doors on December 1, 1998. Many customers are from the tanning busi-

ness that Janice still owns, but word is getting out about the new addition to Wellsboro. The coffee house offers an Internet access to customers as an added twist to the new place. Students from the area high school come after school to hang out and to also do homework on the two computers. During the evening hours is when most of their business is generated. Lately, students from Mansfield University also have heard of and visited the new café.

Cyber Cafe
Wellsboro, PA
Main Street
Monday-Friday
8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Saturdays
10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Although the Cyber Café is still new, patrons already have selected routine favorites from the menu. The most popular drink is the french vanilla cappuccino, as well as a chocolate-flavored mochachino made with chocolate milk. The coffee is ground fresh every day.

"It all has to do with the coffee grounds and the espresso used," Rob Whittemore says. "You need it ground fresh to get the flavor out of the drink. We only use the best espresso for our cappuccino."

In addition to coffee and cappuccino, the café sells a variety

of pastries, such as biscotti, bagels and muffins, and homemade soup. The soup is made fresh daily by Janice and varies day to day.

The computers are hooked up to Epix Internet, with 56K modems, which means they download items at a considerably fast rate. Customers can also print their work off the Internet at the computers for 25 cents a page.

The café offers a promotion called the Sunworks Coffee Club offers a tenth cup for free after nine purchases. *Magic*, the card game, tournaments happen every first Sunday of the month, one of the café's most popular events among youths from the surrounding areas.

An open-mike night attracts customers to perform poetry, songs or storytelling for the other customers. So far, the owners have held two open-mike nights and they are planning on holding more. They offer a number of tanning bargains and drink specials during these events.

During the summer, the Whittemores plan on having movie nights for the area teens to come and watch classic movies or new releases.

"There really isn't a lot for the kids to do around here, and we thought this would provide an entertaining environment for them," explains Rob.

The café is open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and on Saturdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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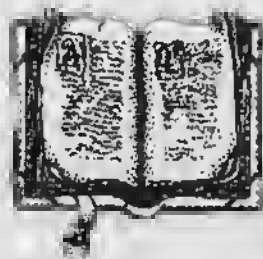
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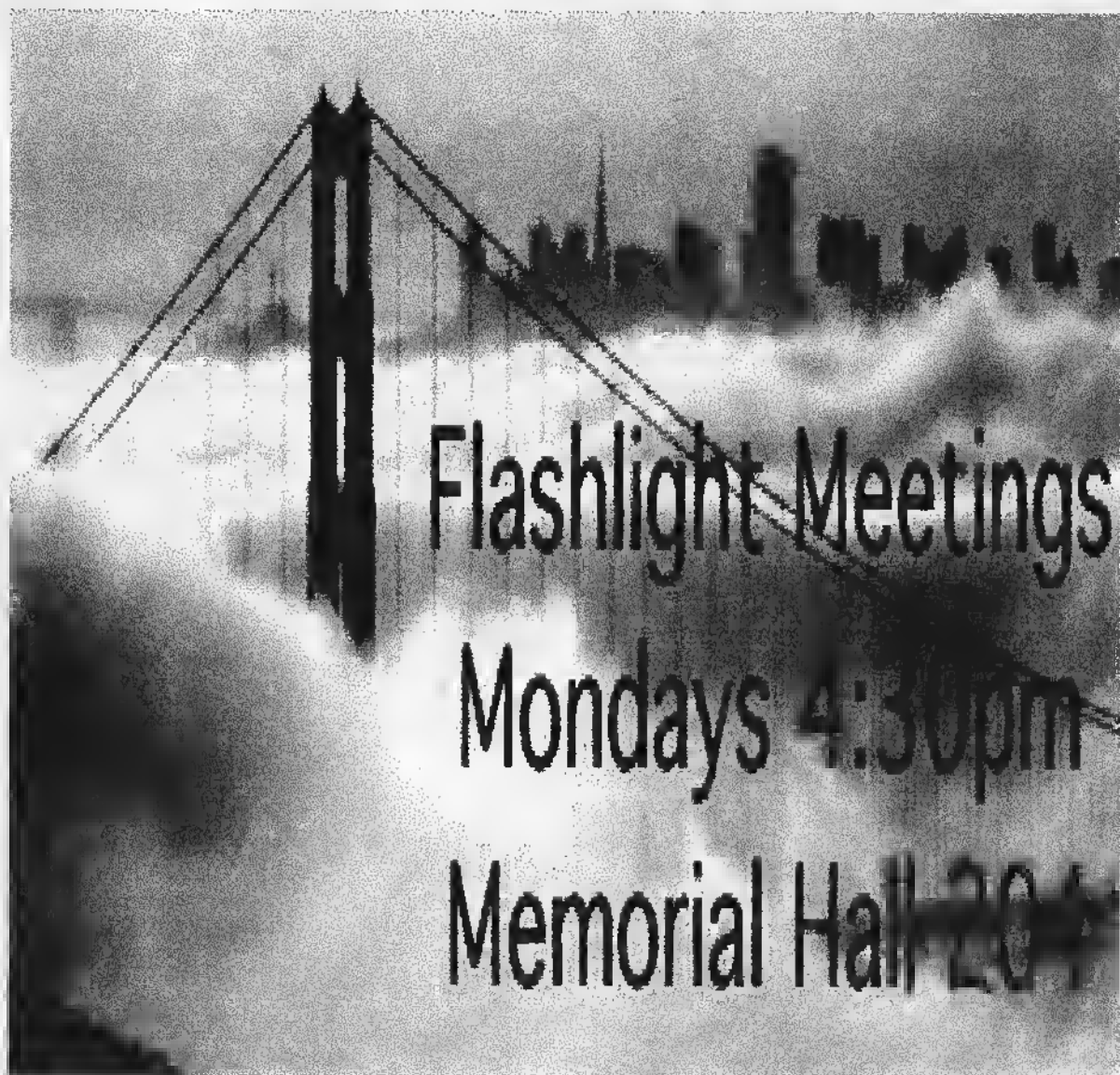


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Flashlight

Parting Moments



Another summer approaches, and springtime life is a season in full when nature blooms with abandon. These are the days when children like to do things like dance in rain puddles and meticulously weave flower "crowns" to wear, of dandelions and clover tops. Beasley the dog had no time for such exertions. A 12-year-old Golden Retriever and Wellsboro native, Beasley had an easier plan when he chose to rest under the willing arm of his backyard spirea shrub. Ready-made crown. No weaving. Life is good.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY M.M. WILLIAMS

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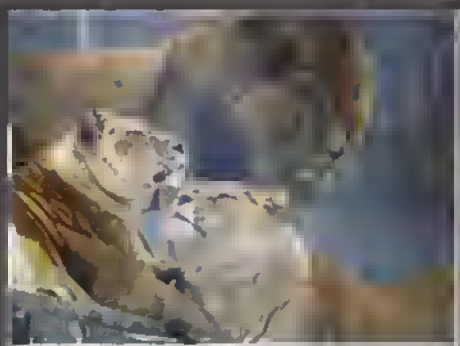


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